



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
*1102 SE Quince Street • PO Box 47990
Olympia, Washington 98504-7990*

February 12, 2004

Mr. Eric Johnson, Chair
Lewis County Board of Health
351 N.W. North Street
Chehalis, Washington 98532

Dear Chair Johnson,

Thank you and the other members of your board of health for allowing Don Sloma and me to attend your meeting last summer and hear about your priority areas of concern. One issue your board raised concerned current operations and maintenance requirements for onsite sewage systems. At its March 10 meeting in Tacoma the State Board of Health will be hearing an update on the Onsite Wastewater Rule Development Committee from the Department of Health.

Local environmental health directors are represented on the Onsite Rule Development Committee, and I hope Lewis County's environmental health director, Tony Barrett, has had provided input from the Lewis County perspective. There will be future opportunities to provide input—during the March 10 meeting public testimony period, during the draft rule public comment period, and at the chapter 246-272A WAC public hearing, tentatively scheduled for November 10, and throughout the rule revision process. Copies of the Onsite Rule Development Committee Report will be available online at www.sboh.wa.gov by March 15 as part of the March 10 meeting materials. Hard copies are available from Randy Aschenbrenner, at 360-236-3062 and randy.aschenbrenner@doh.wa.gov.

In response to your board's concerns about eliminating tire piles and abating riverbed mosquito breeding grounds, State Board staff attempted to contact Loree Jones and Tony Barrett to ask if they thought House Bill 3054 and Senate Bill 6262 might be helpful in eliminating tire piles in Lewis County, and if they were interested in the State Board responding to these bills.

If you would like to provide additional information, other community perspectives, or other suggestions for statewide health priorities, please feel free to call or write. We are open to hearing from you about emerging issues at any time. If you have any further questions or requests, please call the SBOH office. Members of our staff will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Linda Lake, Chair
Washington State Board of Health

cc: Lewis County Board of Health Members
Tony Barrett, Lewis County Public Health
Loree Jones, Lewis County Board of Health
Washington State Board of Health Members
Maryanne Guichard, Department of Health